

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for providing an electronic silent auction~~
~~comprises~~ comprising:

~~receiving a first bid for~~ selecting an item from a first local client at an ~~for~~ an auction,
in which the item is selected from a plurality of items stored on a server ~~described in a~~
~~central repository on a server;~~

transmitting an indication that the selected item is available for auction for a period
of time;

~~receiving a second bid for~~ from each of a plurality of bidders, at least one bid to
purchase the selected item from a second local client at the auction, in which each bid is
received before the period of time has expired and each bidder is located remotely from the
server; the second bid greater than the first bid; and

determining that the period of time has expired based on determining that:

1) a first quantity of bids that is received before a first time interval is less
than a first pre-determined value; and

2) a second quantity of bids that is received before a second time interval is
less than a second pre-determined value; and

~~communicating each bid to the server for processing, the server operable to~~
~~determine~~

determining a winning bid for the selected item based on predetermined criteria.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising
receiving each bid via a wireless connection.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, in which each of the plurality of
bidders submits the at least one bid using a wireless device ~~the server comprising an offsite~~
~~server.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving each bid associated with ~~for~~ the item via ~~at~~ an auction site.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, ~~the central repository storing a~~
~~description for~~ in which each of a plurality of items ~~operable to be bid on by each client,~~
~~each item~~ is associated with an electronic bidsheet that is stored at in the server, and in
which, the electronic bidsheet comprise at least one bid to purchase the item.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, in which each electronic bidsheet
~~comprising comprises one or more bids on a description of~~ the associated item ~~and the~~
~~highest bid comprising a current winning bid.~~
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, in which each of the plurality of
bidders uses a local client to submit a bid, in which each client ~~comprising comprises~~ a
graphical user interface that is operable to receive an identifier of ~~a user~~ each bidder.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, in which the identifier of the ~~user~~
bidder ~~comprising~~ comprises a card number ~~and each client communicably that~~ coupled
with a card reader is operable to process a card associated with the card number.
19. (Cancelled).
20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, ~~wherein the server operable to~~
~~determine a winning bid for the item based on~~ in which the pre-determined criteria
comprises:
~~the server operable to determine a highest bid on the item after~~
determining that a value associated with the winning bid is greater than a plurality
of other values associated with other bids submitted during the period of time.
~~no new bids have been received for a pre-determined amount of time.~~

21-37. (Cancelled).

38. (New) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving a payment for the selected item from a bidder who submitted the winning bid; and
delivering the selected item to the bidder who submitted the winning bid.

39. (New) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving at least one other bid from at least one other customer after the period of time has expired; and
notifying the other customer that the other bid has been rejected.

40. (New) The method of claim 11, in which the first quantity is greater than the second quantity.

41. (New) An apparatus comprising:
a processor; and
a memory, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 11.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 41 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 12.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, in which each of the plurality of bidders submits the at least one bid using a wireless device.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 41 further comprises
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 14.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, in which each of a plurality of items is associated with an electronic bidsheet that is stored in the server, in which the electronic bidsheet comprise at least one bid to purchase the item.
46. (New) The apparatus of claim 45, in which each electronic bidsheet comprises a description of the associated item.
47. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, in which each of the plurality of bidders uses a local client to submit a bid, in which each client comprises a graphical user interface that is operable to receive an identifier of each bidder.
48. (New) The apparatus of claim 47, in which the identifier of the bidder comprises a card number that coupled with a card reader is operable to process a card associated with the card number.
49. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, in which the predetermined criteria comprises:
determining that a value associated with the winning bid is greater than a plurality of other values associated with other bids submitted during the period of time.
50. (New) The apparatus of claim 41 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 38.
51. (New) The apparatus of claim 41 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 39.
52. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, in which the first quantity is greater than the second quantity.
53. (New) An article of manufacture comprising:

a storage medium, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by a processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 11.

54. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 12.

55. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53, in which each of the plurality of bidders submits the at least one bid using a wireless device.

56. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 14.

57. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53, in which each of a plurality of items is associated with an electronic bidsheet that is stored in the server, in which the electronic bidsheet comprise at least one bid to purchase the item.

58. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 57, in which each electronic bidsheet comprises a description of the associated item.

59. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53, in which each of the plurality of bidders uses a local client to submit a bid, in which each client comprises a graphical user interface that is operable to receive an identifier of each bidder.

60. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 59, in which the identifier of the bidder comprises a card number that coupled with a card reader is operable to process a card associated with the card number.

61. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53, in which the predetermined criteria comprises:

determining that a value associated with the winning bid is greater than a plurality of other values associated with other bids submitted during the period of time.

62. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 38.
63. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53 further comprises:
instructions that direct the processor to perform the method of claim 39.
64. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 53, in which the first quantity is greater than the second quantity.